

INFORMATIC~~SECRET~~PORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 13 September 1948

SUBJECT New Powers of the Central  
Control Commission

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DATE OF THE

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

1. Officials of the German Economic Commission (DMK) have confidentially remarked that the key office of the DMK is now the Central Control Commission (ZKK). The control units originally placed in each of the major departments of the DMK were responsible not only directly to the ZKK, but also, through the department heads, to the president. It was recently decided that this decentralization decreased the authority and integrity of the ZKK and would permit domination of control personnel by officials of other department. As a result, the subordinate units have been pulled out of the major department, and the ZKK is now a complete and self-contained unit. The ZKK will be more or less an economic police unit with full authority to inspect, to question, and to supervise the implementation of policies, fulfillment of quotas, delivery of materials, and so forth. Eventually, according to a well-placed official, the ZKK will even have the power of arrest and punishment.

2. The following are the known members of the Central Control Commission:

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Chairman: Fritz Lange  | Former Mayor of Brandenburg/Havel                   |
| Deputy : Ernst Lange   | Former chief of K-5, Administration of the Interior |
| Members : Hans Reschke | Former head of the Administration of the Interior   |
| Karl Litke             | Chairman, SED Landesleitung Berlin                  |
| Roman Chwalek          | Chairman, FDGB                                      |
| Waldemar Schmidt       | City Counsellor for Labor, Berlin Magistrat         |
| Käthe Dahlem           | Wife of Franz Dahlem                                |

3. It is claimed that some of the prominent figures in the ZKK, including Fritz Lange, are mere figureheads who leave the exercising of the real authority to men behind the scenes. The actual head of the ZKK may be Richard Staimer, the veteran Communist chief of the Land Brandenburg police. Staimer commanded an International Brigade in Spain during the Civil War and a partisan battalion in Russia during World War II.

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